

## Appendix B

# SFY 2007 319(h) Grant Project Evaluation Criteria

### **1. Eligible Projects**

#### **A) Watershed-Based Plan Implementation Project**

Projects identified as integral components of a Department approved watershed-based plan will fit this category. Priority within this project type will be given to projects which are designed to:

- a. Reduce the NPS loading of a specific pollutant for which a TMDL has been at least developed;
- b. Address impairment(s) currently found on Sublist 5 of the *New Jersey 2004 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report*(Integrated Report); or
- c. Abate a specific nonpoint source pollutant to a Category One waterbody.

#### **B) Watershed Restoration or Protection Plans**

Planning efforts that are designed to determine the course of action necessary, through the identification of specific measures to be taken, to restore impaired waters and to protect and maintain unimpaired waters, and detail how the nine minimum components will be achieved will be considered in this category. Priority within this project type will be given to watersheds containing:

- 1) TMDL segments
- 2) Waterbodies found on Sublist 5 of the *New Jersey 2004 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report*
- 3) Category One waterbodies
- 4) Proposals that include headwaters or are immediately downstream of an area already under a 319(h) planning exercise will have a priority over proposals which focus on isolated mid-stream areas.

### **2. Project Design**

#### **A) Nature, Extent, and Understanding of the NPS Problem**

Consideration will be given to the description of, as well as the actual nature and extent of, the NPS pollutant(s) to be addressed, and the applicant's description of how the project will address the NPS impairment(s).

#### **B) Project Viability**

Projects will be evaluated for their ability to achieve high levels of pollutant load reduction, as well as the long term sustainability of high removal levels and overall likelihood of project success. Projects should be well designed to achieve the project goal, presented in the proper sequence of events (goal/objective/task) and have well thought out long term commitment to maintenance and monitoring. Permitting considerations and environmental constraints will also be considered under this subheading.

**C) Cost Effectiveness**

Overall project costs will be evaluated for the maximum achievement per dollar spent as well as average costs for products and services proposed.

**3. Applicant Resources, Ability, Past Performance, and Presentation**

Applicants must demonstrate, in a well organized, concise, detailed project proposal, that they have all the necessary resources and ability to perform the proposed project. If the applicant, the submitting entity, or project partners have previously received funding from the Department, past performance will be taken into consideration. Timeliness, cooperation with Department staff and partners, and goal achievement will be considered.

**4. Project Partners**

All applications shall be evaluated based on the degree to which they have developed the partnerships necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the proposal.

**5. Evaluation and Management**

Proposals must describe the ability to measure and document effectiveness of the project and the long-term management of the environmental improvement achieved.

**6. Other Funding/In-Kind Services**

Although a match is not required for projects to be funded, in-kind services weigh in greatly in the Department's evaluation of each project. This type of support demonstrates a long-term commitment to overall project success. The percentage of matching funds to be supplied by the applicant will also be a factor.